(b) Does not arise.

(c) NAFED and TRIFED have not received any specific complaint from foreign buyers.

(d) Does not arise.

Opening of branches of Banks in West Bengal

3380. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government recommended for 612 new centres for opening bank branches under the current licensing policy period (1985-90);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of bank branches which have been opened; and

(d) by when the remaining branches are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the State Government of West Bengal had forwarded a list of 629 identified centres for opening branches during the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 as per details given below:

Name of District	No. of Centres identified
(1)	(2)
Bankura	27
Birbhum	31
Burdwan	43
Cooch Bihar	28
Darjeeling	12
Howrah	19
Hooghly	46
Jalpaiuri	19
Malda	16
Midnapore	109
Murshidabad	67
Nadia	54
West Dinajpur	37
Purulia	32
24 Parganas (South)	50
24 Parganas (North)	39
TOTAL :	629

Out of these 629 centres, RBI has allotted 435 eligible rural and semi-urban centres to various banks for opening branches during the current Branch Licensing Policy. As per the information available with RBI, banks have opened branches at 172 centres in West Bengal so far RBI initially advised the banks that the branches at the allotted centres should be opened in a phased manner during the remaining period of the Policy. However, in the context of Service Area Approach to rural lending, banks have been instructed to open branches at allotted centres expeditiously to facilitate allocation of villages to such branches under this scheme. However, it would not be possible to indicate the likely dates by which the remaining branches will be opened, as opening of branches depends upon a number of factors on which banks have no control such as availability of necessary infrastructural facilities including suitable premises for the branch.

Demonetisation of hundred rupee note

3381. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the demonetisation of hundred rupee note as a step against black money; and